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SCIENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1921

THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF EUGENICS ADDRESS OF WELCOME

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I DOUBT if there has ever been a moment in the world's history when an international conference on race character and betterment has been more important than the present. Europe, in patriotic self-sacrifice on both sides of the World War, has lost much of the heritage of centuries of civilization which never can be regained. In certain parts of Europe the worst elements of society have gained the ascendancy and threaten the destruction of the best. At this moment we welcome the sound and highly trained judgment of Major Leonard Darwin, leader of the eugenics movement in Great Britain; of Dr. Lucien March, the leading statistical authority of France, also leader in the eugenics movement and senior representative of the eugenics movement there; of Dr. Lucien Cuénot, foremost student of the science of heredity in France; of Dr. G. V. de Lapouge of France, the leading authority on racial anthropology and earnest exponent of practical eugenic measures by the government. Dr. Jon Alfred Mjøen of Norway is the leader in the vigorous movement of race hygiene in Scandinavia. Contributions are welcomed from other representatives of Great Britain, of France, of Italy, of the new Republic of Czecho-Slovakia, of our sister Republic of Cuba, and of South and Central America. The leading students of heredity, of statistics, of anthropology, and of eugenics in the United States are here to welcome their confrères from abroad.

To each of the countries of the world, racial betterment presents a different aspect. To the five countries most closely engaged in the recent fratricidal conflict, the financial and economic losses of which we hear so much are as nothing compared with the spiritual,